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LETTER DATED 8 JUNE 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform the Security Council on the position of the Croatian Government concerning the recent decision by the Serbian insurgents in Croatia to hold a "referendum" about the "unification" of territories under their occupation with territories occupied by Bosnian Serbs. The Croatian Government finds this so-called "referendum" to be illegal, contrary to the Croatian Constitution and thus absolutely invalid and irrelevant.

We would like to bring the fact to the attention of the Security Council members, that the areas occupied by Serb rebels were mostly ethnically mixed areas before the Serbian aggression, and in some of them the Serbs were the clear minority (UNPA East and West). The areas are now a disturbing model of how demographic ethnic change can be completed by the means of force and intimidation, because there are no other ethnic groups living there now but Serbs.

The Government of the Republic of Croatia strongly believes that the self-proclaimed "referendum" is organized with the clear attempt to bluntly neglect the fact that the Security Council and the Secretary-General have clearly indicated that the only possible way for the solution of the crisis in Croatia must be found through peaceful negotiations and within the internationally recognized borders of the sovereign Republic of Croatia.

This is one more sign that Serbian militant radicalism is gaining ground not only in Croatia, but in the entire region as well. It is no surprise to us that this is occurring after the international community retreated from its proclaimed strong action aimed to deal more effectively with Serbian militarism and its disregard for the relevant Security Council resolutions.

Because of these undisputed facts, the Government of Croatia requests that the Security Council take necessary steps in order to prevent further aggravations of the situation in the region.

I would be grateful if you would provide for the distribution of this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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